SUBJECT No. 40.

Abolition of the Supari Cess.

Messrs. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao, Koppa Taluk, and H. S. Ganesha Rao, Malnad Landholders' Association, Hosakoppa.

Mr. Hosakoppa Krishna Rao.—We have been asking for the abolition of this cess in the malnad area. It is still being levied and there is no justification for it. Nearly 2 lakhs of rupees have been invested in the supari cess fund and the annual realisations from the cess amount to Rs. 27,000, while Rs. 35,000 are spent for *koleroga* investigation.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao.—The expenditure on *koleroga* investigation was once estimated at Rs. 10,000. It is not clear why Rs. 35,000 should be spent. If the savings had been invested, there would have been a large amount available by this time and the interest thereon could very well have been utilised for this purpose and the levy of the cess discontinued.

Second Member of Council.—The cost of chemicals has considerably increased and nearly 1,000 applications for investigation have been received. We require twice the original establishment now. A sum of Rs. 35,000 was spent on account of establishment charges towards *koleroga*. There are 4 parties who are working at this.

Dewan.—The objects for which this cess is utilised are (1) labour supply to the malnad, (2) malnad arecanut improvement and the farm, (3) investigation and experiments on the general cultivation, (4) establishment of an experimental farm for the cultivation of supari and (5) finding suitable market for supari. If people pay a fee for spraying, the cess may be abolished.

Mr. Vasudeva Rao.—The spraying is done specially for *koleroga*. This is as old as the scientific investigation. When Government has got a separate department for investigation and carrying on experiments, there is no reason why people should pay. Every man can easily have one sprayer which costs Rs. 40 or 50. Every gardener should have a sprayer as a precautionary measure for the protection of the arecanut. No expenditure need therefore be incurred separately on this account.

One member said that the cess should not be levied in maidan.

Dewan.—This subject is coming up for discussion at every session. I shall consult Dr. Coleman whether the two lakhs of rupees cannot be invested and the interest so got utilised for special investigation. I am in sympathy with your complaint and the matter will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 41.

Abolition of the irrigation cess.

Messrs. (*a*) Nadig Lakshmana Rao, Nadig Bhaskara Rao, B Shivaji Wodiyar, Sorab Taluk; Kali Gundappa, Anche Thimmappa, and Venkatagiriappa, Sagar Taluk;

(*b*) Y. Rama Rao, and B. Gopalachar, Tirthahalli Taluk;

Summary of Discussion.—(*a*) Levy of the irrigation cess on lands which have no source of irrigation should be abolished. Moreover as this cess is already included in the assessment levied on wet and garden lands, no separate cess should be levied.

(*b*) Irrigation cess is levied in *malnad* where not even one-sixteenth portion of the total area of wet lands is fed by tanks or channels. The cess should be levied only on such lands as are irrigated by tanks. No contribution should be recovered from the raiyats for the restoration of such tanks.

(*c*) As the wet lands in the *malnad* are all rainfed, the irrigation cess levied even after the resettlement is unjustifiable. It may therefore be abolished.

(*d*) Irrigation cess is levied on lands irrigated by wells and rain water. It is reasonable to levy the cess on lands irrigated by Government tanks or rivers. The cess should be abolished in the former case.

(*c*) Hoskoppa Krishna Rao, Koppa Taluk; H. S. Ganesha Rao, Malnad Landholders' Association, Hoskoppa;

(*d*) Rangaswamy Chetti, Magadi Municipality; Javali Hutchappa, Tyamagondlu Municipality; Hutchu Hanumegowda, C. Naraharaiah, Nelamangala Taluk; Munisamigowda and Veeregowda, Dodballapur Taluk.

Dewan.—We know all about it and this subject was fully considered in the year 1919. A Committee consisting of the Revenue Commissioner and the Chief Engineer went into the whole question.

Some Members.—Both the irrigation cess and the supari cess should be abolished. Any further continuance of these two is not fair. Instead of these, the education cess may be levied.

Mr. Karnick Krishnamurthy Rao.—The irrigation cess is already merged in the wet assessment once and it should not be reimposed by being included again in the increased assessment.

Dewan.—Orders will be passed before June next.

Mr. Murugesam Pillai.—*Takavi* loans may be granted to Panchama applicants at concession rates for the purchase of cattle, seeds, implements, etc.

SUBJECT No. 42.

Grant of *takavi* loans to Panchama applicants.

Mr. P. Murugesam Pillai, Audi Dravida Abhivriddhi Sangham, Bangalore.

Dewan.—A Special Officer will be appointed to investigate the matter and on receipt of his recommendation, the representation will be considered.

Mr. Srikantappa.—Certain items of revenue which were being held under revenue deposits formerly are now being credited to the treasury under the respective heads. In cases where parties are to get back the amount, they have to go to the Deputy Commissioner to have the refund bills sanctioned and payment made; this generally takes a long time. It is requested that Amildars may be empowered to sanction refunds to the extent of Rs. 25 or Rs. 50, or the former Revenue Deposit system revived.

SUBJECT No. 43.

Empowering Amildars to sanction refunds to the extent of Rs. 25, or the revival of the system of Revenue Deposits.

Messrs. A. Srikantappa, Bangalore District Board, and C. Naraharaiya, Nelamangala Taluk.

Dewan.—The Deputy Commissioners have no objection to the Amildars being empowered as requested. This will be sanctioned by Government.

Mr. Venkatasami Gowda.—This is an important subject. This has been coming up for consideration before this Assembly for the past five years. Steps should be taken by Government to make it compulsory on every individual to serve for half a day in a week in executing works under the Village Improvement Scheme, and legal provision should be made to punish him for default. If labour is not enforced by legislation no improvement can be effected.

SUBJECT No. 44.

Labour for village improvement works to be made compulsory.

Mr. Venkatasami Gowda, Malur Taluk.

Mr. Purushothamanandagiri Gosai.—There are raiyats who may be too poor and may be earning their daily livelihood by wages. If they are forced to work compulsorily for half a day in a week and if they fail to do so, they will